



Paper No. 14

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**COPY MAILED****OCT 17 2003**

In re Application of  
Maiorella, et al.  
Application No. 09/867,948  
Filed: May 30, 2001  
Attorney Docket No. PP00693.104  
For: METHOD OF INCREASING PRODUCT  
EXPRESSION THROUGH SOLUTE STRESS

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: **OFFICE OF PETITIONS**  
: **DECISION ON PETITION**  
: **UNDER 37 CFR 1.78(a)(3)**  
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This is a decision on the petition under 37 CFR 1.78(a)(3), filed July 28, 2003 (certificate of mailing date July 23, 2003), to accept an unintentionally delayed claim under 35 U.S.C. § 120 for the benefit of priority to the prior-filed nonprovisional applications set forth in the amendment filed concurrently with the instant petition.

The petition is **GRANTED**.

A petition for acceptance of a claim for late priority under 37 CFR 1.78(a)(3) is only applicable to those applications filed on or after November 29, 2000. Further, the petition is appropriate only after the expiration of the period specified in 37 CFR 1.78(a)(2)(ii). In addition, the petition under 37 CFR 1.78(a)(3) must be accompanied by:

- (1) the reference required by 35 U.S.C. § 120 and 37 CFR 1.78(a)(2)(i) of the prior-filed application(s), unless previously submitted;<sup>1</sup>
- (2) the surcharge set forth in § 1.17(t); and
- (3) a statement that the entire delay between the date the claim was due under 37 CFR 1.78(a)(2)(ii) and the date the claim was filed was unintentional. The Commissioner may require additional information where there is a question whether the delay was unintentional.

The instant pending application was filed on May 30, 2001, and was pending at the time of filing of the instant petition. A reference to the prior-filed nonprovisional applications has been included in an amendment to the first sentence of the specification following the title, as required by 37 CFR 1.78(a)(2)(iii).

The instant nonprovisional application was filed after November 29, 2000, and the claim herein

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<sup>1</sup> Any nonprovisional application or international application designating the United States of America claiming the benefit of one or more prior-filed copending applications or international applications designating the United States of America must contain or be amended to contain a reference (amendment to the first line of the specification following the title or in an application data sheet (ADS) to each such prior-filed application, identifying it by application number (consisting of the series code and serial number) or international application number and international filing date and indicating the relationship of the applications. Cross references to other related applications may be made when appropriate (see § 1.14).

for the benefit of priority to the prior-filed nonprovisional applications is submitted after expiration of the period specified in 37 CFR 1.78(a)(2)(ii). Also, the reference to the prior-filed applications was submitted during the pendency of the instant nonprovisional application. See 35 U.S.C. § 120. Accordingly, having found that the instant petition for acceptance of an unintentionally delayed claim for the benefit of priority under 35 U.S.C. § 120 to the prior-filed nonprovisional applications satisfies the conditions of 37 CFR 1.78(a)(3), the petition is granted.

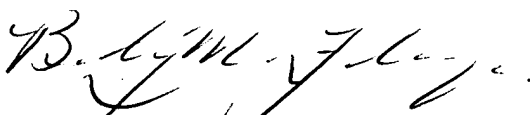
A corrected Filing Receipt, which includes the priority claim to the prior-filed nonprovisional applications, accompanies this decision on petition.

The granting of the petition to accept the delayed benefit claim to the prior-filed application(s) under 37 CFR 1.78(a)(3) should not be construed as meaning that the instant application is entitled to the benefit of the prior-filed application(s). In order for the instant application to be entitled to the benefit of the prior-filed application(s), all other requirements under 35 U.S.C. § 120 and 37 CFR 1.78(a)(1) and (a)(2) must be met. Similarly, the fact that the corrected Filing Receipt accompanying this decision on petition includes the prior-filed applications should not be construed as meaning that applicant is entitled to the claim for benefit of priority to the prior-filed applications noted thereon. Accordingly, the examiner will, in due course, consider this benefit claim and determine whether the instant application is entitled to the benefit of the earlier filing date.

There is no indication that petitioner herein was ever empowered to prosecute the instant application. If petitioner desires to receive future correspondence regarding this application, the appropriate power of attorney documentation must be submitted. A courtesy copy of this decision will be mailed to petitioner. However, all future correspondence will be directed to the address of record until such time as appropriate instructions are received to the contrary.

Any inquiries concerning this decision may be directed to the undersigned at (703) 308-6712.

This application is being forwarded to Technology Center Art Unit 1653 for examination in due course and for processing and consideration by the Examiner of applicant's claim under 35 U.S.C. § 120 and 37 CFR 1.78(a)(1) and (2) for the benefit of priority to the prior-filed nonprovisional applications.

  
Beverly M. Flanagan  
Supervisory Petitions Examiner  
Office of Petitions

ATTACHMENT: Corrected Filing Receipt

cc: ERIC J. KRON  
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